

California State Executive Director,

John Smythe was appointed as USDA, Farm Service Agency State Executive Director on April 30, 2001. As Director, John oversees the delivery of federal agricultural programs to farmers and ranchers in California through 31 county FSA offices located throughout the state.



Prior to his appointment, John served as Vice President of Operations for Net Horsepower, Inc., which provides agricultural on-line trading through the Horsepower Trading Platform (HTP) and Horsepower.com. HTP is a global on-line marketplace that enables farmers and other agribusiness companies to transact business with one another over the Internet.

Before working for Net Horsepower, John served as the California State Executive Director of the USDA, FSA from 1989 to 1999. He was appointed by then President George H. W. Bush.

John has served in various management positions for FSA in California beginning in 1977. He was the County Executive Director for the Mendocino and Lake County offices in Ukiah; the County Executive Director of the Kings County Office in Hanford, and the District Director overseeing FSA offices in the Sacramento Valley north to the Oregon border.

John has received numerous honors and awards, including the Administrator's Award for Service to agriculture and the USDA Honor Award.

John graduated from California State University at Chico in 1973. He is married with two children and resides in Woodland, California.